

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02233 221932Z

72

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAB-01 OMB-01

AID-20 EA-11 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 /205 W

----- 008809

R 221525Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6621

INFO USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2233

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

POUCHED BAGHDAD CAIRO AND DAMASCUS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR XF

SUBJ: CONTINUING FEDAYEEN CONTROVERSY OVER ME SETTLEMENT

REF BEIRUT 1764

SUMMARY: INTERNAL PLO WRANGLING OVER PROPER POSITION TO BE
ADOPTED RE PEACEFUL ME SETTLEMENT CONTINUES, AND PRO-SETTLEMENT
FACTION IN RECENT TOP-LEVEL FEDAYEEN CONCLAVE EVIDENTLY WAS UNABLE
OR UNWILLING TO FORCE RESOLUTION OF THIS DIVISIVE ISSUE. CONTROVERSY,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 02233 221932Z

IN OUR VIEW, WOULD ASSUME MORE SERIOUS PROPORTIONS IF,

AS IS NOW RUMORED, JORDANIAN DEL AT LAHORE CONF SHOULD UNEXPECTEDLY ACQUIESCE IN RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PLO AS SOLE REP OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. END SUMMARY.

1. DEPT WILL HAVE NOTED FROM VARIOUS REPORTS, INCLUDING FBIS, THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL MET FEB 16-17 DAMASCUS, BUT-- AT REQUEST OF PFLP AND ALF--POSTPONED UNTIL LATER DATE DISCUSSION OF PLO "8589, 049&4-." FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN "NATIONAL AUTHORITY" IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES FOLLOWING ISRAEL WITHDRAWAL (PARA 3 REFTEL. AS BEST WE CAN ASCERTAIN, IT ALSO FAILED CONSIDER SUCH NOTIONS AS CREATION OF PALESTINIAN GOVT-IN-EXILE OR REPRIMANDING PFLP FOR LATEST TERROR OPERATIONS IN SINGAPORE AND KUWAIT (DESPITE FACT THAT 'ARAFAT, AS RECENTLY AS FEB 20 IN KUWAIT, WAS STILL PROMISING TO BRING PERPETRATORS "TO ACCOUNT").

2. WE EXPECT PNC CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL MEET AGAIN FOLLOWING 'ARAFAT'S RETURN FROM ISLAMIC CONF AT LAHORE. IN MEANTIME, HABASH AND OTHER SPOKESMEN FOR FEDAYEEN "REJECTIONIST" WING HAVE CONTINUED SQERE AND IN BAGHDAD TO DENOUNCE "TREASONOUS PLOT OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT" THAT WOULD DIVERT FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT FROM GOAL OF "TOTAL LIBERATION" OF PALESTINE BY "ARMED STRUGGLE." PFLP REPORTEDLY IS ALSO PRODUCING ITS OWN "WORKING PAPER" WHICH IT INTENDS TO USE IN FURTHER CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSIONS TO AMEND AND WATER DOWN ELEMENTS IT FINDS OBJECTIONABLE IN PLO "ACTION PROGRAM". 'ARAFAT, FOR HIS PART, IN SPEECH AT FEB 20 PALESTINIAN RALLY IN KUWAIT, REPORTEDLY PREDICTED IMMINENT AGREEMENT RE DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES ON SYRIAN FRONT AND BITTERLY CRITICIZED OPPONENTS OF PLO "ACTION PROGRAM" FOR THEIR BLINDNESS TO "TRUE INTERESTS" OF PALESTINIAN CAUSE.

3. COMMENT: OUR BEST GUESS IS THAT PNC CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL AGAIN PROVE UNABLE RESOLVE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PLO "MODERATES" AND "REJECTIONISTS" AND THAT LONG-HERALDED PNC MEETING IN CAIRO (NOW RUMORED TO BE "IRREVOCABLY" SET FOR MAR A15) WILL BE POSTPONED YET AGAIN. WE INTERPRET 'ARAFAT'S FEB 20 ASSERTION IN KUWAIT TO EFFECT THAT FINAL PLO POSITION RE PROPOSED

"ACTION PROGRAM" WILL BE KEPT SECRET "UNTIL LAST MINUTE" AS MEANING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 02233 221932Z

THAT HE AND PLO/FATAH LEADERSHIP ARE CONTENT FOR PRESENT TO LET MATTERS DRIFT IN ORDER AVOID OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH FEDAYEEN "REJECTIONISTS".

4. ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT WORTH NOTING IS NEW UPSURGE IN CONFUSION AND UNCERTAINTY IN LOCAL FEDAYEEN CIRCLES PRODUCED BY NEWS REPORTS THAT JORDANIAN DEL TO LAHORE ISLAMIC CONF MAY USE THAT FORUM TO SUPPORT RECOGNITION OF PLO AS SOLE REP OF PALESTINIAN

PEOPLE AND THEREBY STICK FEDAYEEN FIRMLY WITH TASK FO REPRESENTING
PALESTINIANS IN FUTURE ME SETTLEMENT EFFORTS. DESPITE
INFOMIN ABU AUDEH'S FEB 21 DENIAL OF ANY CHANGE IN GJ POLICY
IN THIS REGARD (WHICH APPEARS CONFLICT WITH JORDANIAN DEL'S FAILURE
TO OPPOSE RESOLUTION RE PLO STATUS WHICH, ACCORDING TO NEWS
REPORTS, WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY IONF DRAFTING COMMITTEE
NIYYT OF FEB 20), WEOALREADY SENSE TREMORS OF SUPENSE AND APPRE-
HENSION RUNNING AMONG FEDAYEEN OVER ADDITIONAL COMPLICATIONS SUCH
AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT WOULD INJECT INTO INTERNAL PLO
CONTROVERSY RE FEDAYEEN ASSOCIATION WITH SETTLEMENT EFFORT.
HOUGHTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, REFUGEES, PEACE TALKS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BEIRUT02233
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740216/aaaaapbk.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BEIRUT 1764
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUING FEDAYEEN CONTROVERSY OVER ME SETTLEMENT
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, XF, PLO, FEDAYEEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005